

Vulnerable Democrats push for local priorities in budget

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — U.S. Rep. Cindy Axne of Iowa was slow to get behind a \$1 trillion infrastructure bill after the Senate passed it last month. It wasn't the price tag that tripped up the Democrat from a swing House district. It was that none of the money was targeted for a home state industry — ethanol and biodiesel.

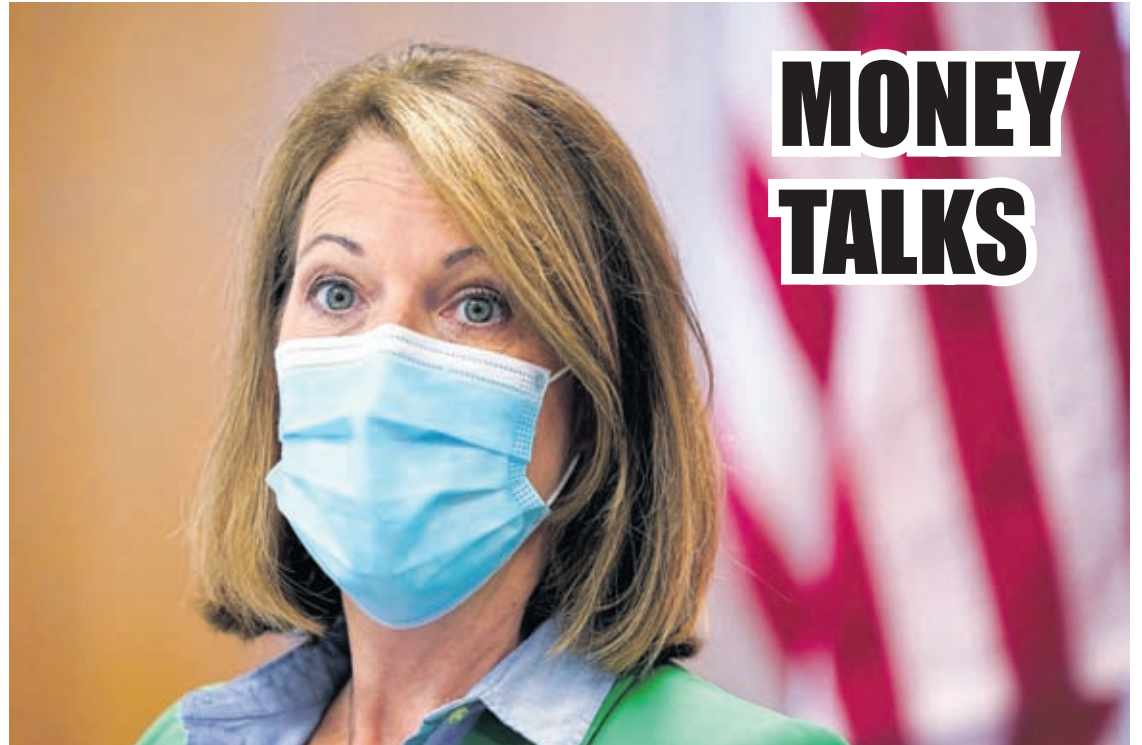
Axne set out to fix that. In the weeks since, she won assurances from congressional leaders that a separate multi-trillion-dollar budget blueprint would include money for the renewable fuels. She's now on board.

Her biofuels bargain underscores the political strategy embedded in the negotiations over massive new federal spending.

While Democrats have set out to pass ambitious bills with historic expansions of the social safety net and long-sought new programs, that's not how many politically vulnerable Democrats such as Axne are selling them at home. For them, Washington's spending boom has become a chance to deliver the goods — and win headlines and perhaps bipartisan support in their districts.

"If she wants to get elected next time, this is her political bread and butter," Ray Gaesser, a Republican farmer in Axne's district and past candidate for Iowa secretary of agriculture, said about her work to secure money for bio-fuels. "For my part, I appreciate her approach."

Continued on next page



In this Sept. 2, 2021, photo Rep. Cindy Axne, D-Iowa, speaks about the Rural Reinvestment Task Force during a meeting with local officials in Indianola, Iowa.

Associated Press

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In this Sept. 2, 2021, photo Rep. Cindy Axne, D-Iowa, speaks about the Rural Reinvestment Task Force during a meeting with local officials in Indianola, Iowa.

Associated Press

Continued from Front

Rep. Angie Craig of Minnesota has taken a similar tack.

Craig, whose district includes vast tracts of farmland southeast of the Twin Cities, is promoting her role securing \$2.5 billion for farmers and rural small businesses to convert to renewable energy sources and high efficiency equipment as a financial incentive to meet higher environmental standards.

She tweeted on Friday that she was "thrilled that this

long-time priority of mine" would be "supporting family farmers and driving investment across rural America."

In Virginia, Rep. Abigail Spanberger said she is chiefly focused on a measure to exempt her district's small-scale farmers and foresters from an increase in the estate tax which President Joe Biden has proposed to help pay for the \$3.5 trillion bill.

Though Spanberger's constituents are concentrated in suburban Richmond, the district stretches north and south across the rolling, agricultural Piedmont and its many dairy, vegetable and cattle farms and private forestland.

"I've been very focused on making sure we're protecting small family farmers and foresters, certainly across central Virginia," Spanberger told The Associated Press.

The lawmakers' efforts are aimed at assisting rural America, where Democrats have steadily lost votes over the past decade. The party is clear-eyed about needing to at least trim its losses in those areas, if they are to hold the congressional seats — and control of the House in 2022.

Democrats currently have a mere eight-seat majority. Republicans are targeting roughly 30 House seats where Democrats won by fewer than 10 percentage points in 2020. Axne, Spanberger and Craig each won by no more than 2 percentage points.

"There's been a very deliberate effort to think about those provisions in ways that would be beneficial to rural communities," said Democratic pollster Geoff Garin who is advising the party on the budget package.

Republicans argue that the size of the spending bill will turn off rural voters in key districts, not attract sup-

port.

"Rural voters are incredibly concerned about the reckless spending and massive tax hikes that will be included in Democrats' reconciliation bill," said Mike Berg, a spokesman for the National Republican Congressional Committee.

"If Democrats think these voters' concerns will be mollified by a few kick-backs from the federal government, they are sorely mistaken."

The trillion-dollar infrastructure bill — a plan for roads, bridges, public transit and broadband internet — passed the Democratic-controlled Senate with bipartisan support last month. The House is expected to pass the bill, but its success is tied to progress on the \$3.5 trillion budget bill that includes extended child tax credits, expanded Medicare coverage, tuition-free community college, and other social and environmental programs.

Pelosi has set the ambitious goal of passing it by Oct. 1. Axne announced on Wednesday that the draft of the House budget bill would include \$1 billion to expand retail availability of ethanol and biodiesel around the country. Iowa leads the nation producing ethanol, a corn-based fuel additive, and biodiesel, commonly made from soybeans. The amount is double what Axne sought in a bill she had introduced in the House Agriculture Committee this year.

The grants are expected to increase demand for the fuels nationally, spur output in Iowa's 42 ethanol plants and biodiesel refineries, as well as boost the price of corn and soybeans for the farmers who supply them, according to Iowa renewable fuels advocates.

"It impacts the price of soybeans by more than a dollar a bushel. □



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Manchin favors trimming Biden budget plan by more than half

By HOPE YEN

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Democratic senator vital to the fate of President Joe Biden's \$3.5 trillion plan for social and environmental spending said Sunday he won't support even half that amount or the ambitious timetable envisioned for passing it.

The stand by Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., was described as unacceptable by the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, who is helping craft the measure. But Democrats have no votes to spare if they want to enact Biden's massive "Build Back Better" agenda, with the Senate split 50-50 and Vice President Kamala Harris the tiebreaker if there is no Republican support.

With congressional committees working toward the target of Wednesday set by party leaders to have the bill drafted, Manchin made clear his view, in a series of television interviews, that there was "no way" Congress would meet the late September goal from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., for passage. "I cannot support \$3.5 trillion," Manchin said, citing



In this Aug. 5, 2021, file photo Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., prepares to chair a hearing in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, as lawmakers work to advance the \$1 trillion bipartisan bill, at the Capitol in Washington.

Associated Press

in particular his opposition to a proposed increase in the corporate tax rate from 21% to 28% and vast new social spending.

"We should be looking at everything, and we're not. We don't have the need to rush into this and get it done within one week because there's some deadline

we're meeting, or someone's going to fall through the cracks," he said.

Pressed repeatedly about a total he could support, Manchin said, "It's going to be \$1, \$1.5 (trillion)." He later suggested the range was based on a modest rise in the corporate tax rate to 25%, a figure he believes

will keep the U.S. globally competitive.

"The numbers that they're wanting to pay for and the tax changes they want to make, is that competitive?" Manchin asked. "I believe there's some changes made that does not keep us competitive."

But Vermont Sen. Bernie

Sanders, who is developing the budget bill, noted that he and other members of the liberal flank in Congress had initially urged an even more robust package of \$6 trillion.

"I don't think it's acceptable to the president, to the American people, or to the overwhelming majority of the people in the Democratic caucus," Sanders said. He added: "I believe we're going to all sit down and work together and come up with a \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill which deals with the enormously unmet needs of working families."

The current blueprint proposes billions for rebuilding infrastructure, tackling climate change and expanding or introducing a range of services, from free prekindergarten to dental, vision and hearing aid care for seniors.

Manchin voted last month to approve a budget resolution that set the figure, though he and Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., have expressed reservations about the topline amount. All of it would be paid for with taxes on corporations and the wealthy. □

Bush warns of domestic extremism, appeals to 'nation I know'

By ZEKE MILLER

SHANKSVILLE, Pa. (AP) — Warning that the nation was falling into division and extremism, former President George W. Bush appealed Saturday for a return to the spirit of cooperation that emerged — almost instantaneously — after the 9/11 attacks 20 years ago.

Delivering the keynote address at the national memorial to the victims of Flight 93, who forced down their airplane hijacked by al-Qaida terrorists before it could be used as a weapon against the nation's capital, Bush warned of "violence that gathers within." "There is little cultural overlap between violent extremists abroad and violent extremists at home," he said. "But in their disdain for pluralism, in their disregard for human life, in their deter-

mination to defile national symbols, they are children of the same foul spirit. And it is our continuing duty to confront them."

Bush's warning came barely eight months after the violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol by supporters of then-President Donald Trump attempting to overturn the results of the 2020 election. It marked some of Bush's sharpest criticism of that attack and appeared to be an implicit criticism of Trump's brand of politics.

Bush lamented that "so much of our politics has become a naked appeal to anger, fear and resentment."

He admitted he had no easy solutions. Instead, he channeled the heroism of the Flight 93 victims, and the determined spirit of a wounded nation to

emerge from the tragedy stronger.

"On America's day of trial and grief, I saw millions of people instinctively grab for a neighbor's hand and rally to the cause of one another," Bush said. "That is the America I know."

He added that in the aftermath of the attacks Islamophobia, nativism or selfishness could have risen to the fore, but the country rejected them, and said, "That is the nation I know."

"This is not mere nostalgia, it is the truest version of ourselves," Bush said. "It is what we have been, and what we can be again."

Bush's appeal for unity drew plaudits from President Joe Biden, who visited Shanksville not long after Bush spoke, having watched his speech aboard Air Force One on the flight from 9/11



Former President George W. Bush, right center, bumps fists with Flight 93 National Memorial superintendent Stephen M. Clark, left, after participating in a Service of Remembrance at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pa., Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021, as the nation marks the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

Associated Press

commemoration events in New York.

"I thought that President Bush made a really good speech today," Biden said. "Genuinely."

Biden too has prioritized national unity, telling reporters Saturday, "That's the thing that's going to affect our well-being more than anything else." □

California voters: Less Republican and white than in 2003

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — It's a familiar refrain among California's recall watchers: 2021 is not 2003.

Yes, the state again is in the middle of a recall election that could remove the Democratic governor from office. But today's California electorate looks far different than it did 18 years ago: It's less Republican, more Latino and Asian, and younger — all trends that favor Gov. Gavin Newsom, so long as he can get his voters to turn out.

"Newsom has always had it by the numbers, and he knows that," said Mindy Romero, director of the Center for Inclusive Democracy at the University of Southern California and an expert in voters and the electorate.

Early voting has been going on for weeks and more than 7 million ballots have been cast so far. The final day to vote is Tuesday.

There are two questions on the ballot: Should Newsom be recalled and, if so, who should replace him? If a majority wants him gone, whoever gets the most support among the 46 names on the replacement ballot will become governor. It would almost certainly be a Republican since no Democrat with political standing is running. Conservative talk radio host Larry



In this Aug. 30, 2021 file photo, Francisco Torres casts his ballot at the Sacramento County Registrar of Voters office in Sacramento, Calif.

Associated Press

Elder has been leading in polls.

The recall began as an effort driven by amateur Republican political organizers upset by Newsom's positions on immigration, crime and other issues. But the coronavirus pandemic, and frustrations over business and school closures, got it on the ballot.

In 2003, Democrat Gray Davis became the first California governor to get recalled. He had just begun his second term and voters were agitated over an energy crisis that had led to rolling power outages,

looming tax and fee increases and a poor economy. Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger jumped into the race and won handily.

Back then, about 9 million of nearly 15 million registered voters participated in the race. Roughly 4 million backed Davis, or 44%. On the question of who should replace him, Schwarzenegger got about 4.2 million votes.

At the time, about 35% of voters were registered Republicans, 43% were Democrats and 16% weren't in a party. Today, California

has 22 million registered voters but the Republican Party claims just a quarter of the electorate because registration numbers have remained essentially flat, hovering above 5 million. Democrats, meanwhile, have added 3 million voters, and 2.6 million more people are independents. Latino voters now make up more than a quarter of registered voters compared to 17.5% in 2003, according to data provided by Romero. Asian voters also increased their share, now at 10.4%. As those demographic groups have grown, the overall

electorate is younger.

"It's not like it's Baby Boomers that are Latinos and Asian Americans moving from another state to California. These are people born and bred in this state and they are aging into the electorate," said Sonja Diaz, founding director of the Latino Policy & Politics Initiative at the University of California, Los Angeles.

All of those trends should benefit Democrats, who have only strengthened their hold on the state over the past two decades. Californians haven't elected a Republican to elected office since 2006, when Schwarzenegger won a second term, and Democrats today hold supermajorities in both houses of the state Legislature.

Though former Republican President Donald Trump increased his support among Latinos between 2016 and 2020, the Latino population still heavily favors Democrats in California, Diaz said. But Diaz said the party can't be taking Latino voters for granted, particularly as their power as a voting bloc expands. Latinos now make up 40% of California's population of nearly 40 million people, more than any other racial or ethnic group. Yet they are less likely to vote than other groups. □

Evangelical Lutheran church installs 1st transgender bishop



Bishop Megan Rohrer speaks to the press before their installation ceremony at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021.

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The Evangelical Lutheran

bishop in a service held in San Francisco's Grace Cathedral on Saturday.

The Rev. Megan Rohrer will lead one of the church's 65 synods, overseeing nearly 200 congregations in Northern California and northern Nevada.

"My call is ... to be up to the same messy, loving things I was up to before," Rohrer told worshippers. "But mostly, if you'll let me, and I think you will, my hope is to love you and beyond that, to love what you love."

Rohrer was elected in May to serve a six-year term as bishop of the Sierra Pacific Synod after its current bishop announced his retire-

ment.

"I step into this role because a diverse community of Lutherans in Northern California and Nevada prayerfully and thoughtfully voted to do a historic thing," Rohrer said in a statement. "My installation will celebrate all that is possible when we trust God to shepherd us forward."

Rohrer, who uses the pronoun "they," previously served as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in San Francisco and a chaplain coordinator for the city's police department, and also helped minister to the city's homeless and LGBTQ community. They studied

religion at Augustana University in their hometown of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, before moving to California to pursue master and doctoral degrees at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley.

Rohrer became one of seven LGBTQ pastors accepted by the progressive Evangelical Lutheran church in 2010 after it allowed ordination of pastors in same-sex relationships. Rohrer is married and has two children.

The church is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States with about 3.3 million members. □

Custody fight over child, 6, who survived Italy cable crash

By **FRANCES D'EMILIO** Associated Press

ROME (AP) — A six-year-old boy who was the sole survivor of a cable car crash this year in northern Italy is at the center of a bitter custody battle between his maternal grandparents in Israel and his paternal relatives in Italy, who claim the child was flown without their permission to Israel over the weekend.

Fourteen people, including Eitan Biran's parents and younger sibling, died when the cable car slammed into a mountainside on May 23 after the cable broke. After the boy was released from a Turin hospital following weeks of treatment for critical injuries, Italian juvenile court officials ruled that the child could live with a paternal aunt near Pavia, in northern Italy. But the aunt, Aya Biran, told reporters on Sunday that the previous day, Eitan's maternal grandfather took the boy on an agreed-upon day visit, then flew him without permission to Israel.

She said the boy has been undergoing both physical therapy and psychotherapy since his hospital release and was due to have follow-up medical visits this week, including one in Tu-



In this May 26, 2021 file photo, the wreckage of a cable car after it collapsed near the summit of the Stresa-Mottarone line in the Piedmont region, northern Italy.

rin.

"His bed is empty, his toys and clothes were left behind. His new desk, school backpack, notebooks, pencil case and books were ready" for his first day of class on Monday, she said.

The aunt contended that when the maternal grandfather had come to pick him up for an arranged visit on Saturday morning, it was agreed that the boy would be back by dinner. But af-

ter Eitan didn't return, the aunt filed a police report on Saturday night, Italian news report said.

The maternal grandfather couldn't immediately be reached for comment. But a sister of Eitan's late mother denied that the boy was snatched away from Italy. "We did not abduct Eitan," Gali Peleg told radio station 103 FM in Israel. "We will not use that word. What happened is that we brought Eitan home."

Gali Peleg wouldn't say exactly where the boy was, only that he had arrived on Saturday. "We are caring for his emotional state and health."

In Italy, Aya Biran told reporters the boy has Italian citizenship and had been living with his parents since when he was a toddler in Italy before the accident. It wasn't immediately possible to confirm if the child also had Israeli citizenship but he reportedly had an

Israeli passport.

The Italian foreign ministry wasn't immediately commenting on the case.

The aunt in Israel told the radio station that the boy "screamed from excitement when he saw us. He said, 'I'm finally in Israel.'" The aunt added that "everything we did was only for the good of the boy."

Pavia prosecutors' offices were closed on Sunday and investigators couldn't immediately be reached for comment on Italian news reports that they were considering opening an investigation into the case.

"I am certain and full of hope" that Israeli and Italian authorities will work together "to ensure his return home" to Italy, Aya Biran told reporters.

The Corriere della Sera newspaper quoted a paternal uncle, Or Nirko, as saying Saturday that the Pelegs had the boy's Israeli passport and had failed to give it to the paternal relatives despite an Italian court order that they do so by Aug. 30. Nirko was quoted as saying that the boy's maternal grandparents had contended that if he stayed in Italy, "Eitan would have grown up without ties to his (Israeli) identity." □

Associated Press

U.K. ditches plans for vaccine passports at crowded venues

LONDON (AP) — Authorities in Britain have decided not to require vaccine passports for entry into nightclubs and other crowded events in England, Britain's health secretary said Sunday, reversing course amid opposition from some of the Conservative government's supporters in Parliament.

Health Minister Sajid Javid said the government has shelved the idea of vaccine passports for now but could reconsider the decision if COVID-19 cases rise exponentially once again. "We've looked at it properly and whilst we should keep it in reserve as a potential option, I'm pleased to say that we will not be going ahead with plans for

vaccine passports," Javid told the BBC.

The U-turn came just days after both the government's vaccines minister and the culture secretary suggested that vaccine passports would still be necessary, despite growing opposition from lawmakers.

In particular, members of the governing Conservative Party have objected to such passports as an unacceptable burden on businesses and an infringement on residents' human rights. The idea of requiring people to show proof of vaccination or a recent negative test for COVID-19 has been uncomfortable for many in Britain, where people generally aren't re-

quired to carry identification documents.

Other European nations are using similar documents showing peoples' vaccination status as a way to re-open society — although the rules vary widely. Each of Germany's 16 states has slightly different rules on what is required, but in general, people are required to show a negative test, vaccine or recovery certificate before being allowed to participate in indoor dining, drinking or dancing. Passes are required in France when frequenting bars, cafes, restaurants, museums and other places where the public gathers and for long-distance travel on buses, trains and



In this Wednesday, June 30, 2021 file photo, Britain's newly appointed Health Secretary Sajid Javid looks at photographers as he puts on a face mask to curb the spread of coronavirus as he gets into his ministerial vehicle after leaving 10 Downing Street in London.

Associated Press

planes. In Italy, where discos have not re-opened since the start of the pandemic, so-called Green Passes are required to dine

indoors, attend a concert or for domestic travel by trains, buses, planes or ferries, although local transport is exempt. □

Syria city back to a kind of normalcy after cease-fire

By **ALBERT AJI**

DARAA, Syria (AP) — The badly damaged old section of the southern Syrian city of Daraa, which until recently was held by opposition gunmen, appeared to slowly return to some sense of normalcy Sunday. The capture of Daraa al-Balad marked another victory for President Bashar Assad, whose forces now control much of the country 10 years after Syria's civil war began.

A Russian-negotiated cease-fire deal went into effect last week to end a government siege and intense fighting in Daraa city with rebel fighters holed up in Daraa al-Balad. But the agreement was riddled by fighting and government bombing of rebel-held areas, where civilians also lived. After the deal went into effect, scores of fighters were taken in buses to other rebel-held areas north of the country and hundreds of others handed over their weapons in return for amnesty.

Syria's Information Ministry took a group of journalists to Daraa four days after



Buildings damaged by Syrian government forces following clashes with rebel fighters are seen in the southern city of Daraa, Syria, Sunday, Sept 12, 2021.

Associated Press

government troops entered Daraa al-Balad, a bastion of the Syrian armed opposition since 2013. The journalists were not taken to the historic Omari mosque, where the anti-government opposition began a decade ago.

Daraa province, which

straddles the borders with Jordan and Israel, became known as the cradle of the uprising against Assad that erupted in March 2011 as part of the Arab Spring revolts and eventually led to war.

At the entrance of the Daraa al-Balad district, Syrian

troops took position on the first floor of a heavily damaged building overlooking a main street. Russian and Syrian flags flew over the building as Russian military police vehicles were seen driving by.

On Sunday morning, bulldozers removed sand

dunes that had closed roads for months. Men drove by on motorcycles while some women were walking around the area to buy food products from the few shops that were open. One person walking through Daraa al-Balad was Ahmed Kiwan, 45, who came to the area to buy scrap metal from residents. "We are now able to work freely," said Kiwan, who is from the nearby village of Tafas.

The Russian-negotiated cease-fire was designed to end the violence that erupted this summer between government forces and opposition fighters, and included a siege on the city that had threatened to undo years of relative calm along the borders with Israel and Jordan.

The opposition blamed the government for the escalation, saying that troops were pressing an offensive to force insurgents to surrender. Under the deal, nearly 900 fighters surrendered their weapons and will stay in Daraa al-Balad, according to Syrian opposition activists. □

Serbs protest against lithium mining, other eco problems



A man holds a banner that reads: "Rio Tinto go away!" during protest against pollution and the exploitation of a lithium mine in western part of the country, in Belgrade, Serbia, Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021.

Associated Press

By **DARKO VOJINOVIC**

Associated Press

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) — Several thousand people protested in Serbia on Saturday demanding a ban on planned lithium mining in the Balkan country as well

as a resolution to scores of other environmental issues that made the region one of the most polluted in Europe.

The rally in downtown Belgrade was organized by about 30 ecological groups

who recently gained popularity in Serbia amid widespread disillusionment with mainstream politicians and amid major pollution problems facing the region.

The protesters held banners demanding protection of Serbia's rivers, nature and air which they say have been endangered by profit-seeking government policies and decades of neglect.

The protesters later blocked one of the main bridges in the capital for a while as they announced several other blockades in the rest of the country in the coming months.

More than 100,000 people have signed a petition against international Rio Tinto mining company, which has sought to construct a lithium mine in the western parts of the country that is rich in the mineral used in the production of

electric car batteries.

"Our demand is that the government of Serbia annul all obligations to Rio Tinto," said Aleksandar Jovanovic, one of the organizers. "We have gathered to say no to those who offer concentrated sulphuric acid instead of raspberries and honey."

A number of experts have warned that nature in western Serbia would suffer in the case of exploitation of lithium in the area that is rich in fertile land and agriculture. Serbia has also faced huge pollution problems caused by coal-powered plants run by Chinese companies.

In addition to mining, Serbia has faced mounting problems that include poor garbage management and high air pollution caused by the use of poor-quality coal and other pollutants. Rivers have been polluted by

toxic industrial waste and many cities, including Belgrade, lack good sewage and waste water systems.

"We were thirsty this summer, we breathe toxic air and land is being sold out," organizers of the protest said in a statement. "Forests are being cut and mines are expanding."

The Balkan nations must substantially improve their environmental protection policies if they want to move forward in their bids to join the 27-nation EU. Impoverished and marred by corruption after years of wars in the 1990s, many Balkan countries have pushed environmental issues to the sidelines.

Rio Tinto has committed \$2.4 billion to the project in Serbia which would make it one of the world's largest producers of lithium amid increasing demand for electric cars. □

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In conservative Somalia, a rare woman presidential candidate

By **HASSAN BARISE**
Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)

— The woman who broke barriers as the first female foreign minister and deputy prime minister in culturally conservative Somalia now aims for the country's top office as the Horn of Africa nation moves toward a long-delayed presidential election.

Parliament member Fawzia Yusuf H. Adam is well aware of the challenges in winning votes in a nation where women often remain marginalized. In an interview with The Associated Press, she described the struggle of leading a foreign ministry staff that was overwhelmingly male. "They were very reluctant to collaborate with me just because I am a female," she said.

Even as more educated women return to Somalia from the large diaspora to help rebuild the country after three decades of conflict, attitudes toward Adam's run for office are mostly skeptical, if sympathetic. Even friends and colleagues see her chances as next to impossible because of her gender.

"She's good, but unfortunately she's a woman," said Abdiwahid Mohamed Adam, a doctor at Mogadishu Memorial Hospital. Complicating her bid, he said, is the fact that Adam comes from the break-away region of Somaliland, a comparatively stable area in the north that has sought international recognition as an independent country for years.

But the soft-spoken Adam, a widow and mother of three, said she believes her run for the presidency is worthwhile, not futile, on several levels, while the timing of the election has

been pushed back once again amid political tensions from mid-October toward the end of the year.

"I want to break this barrier against women, so that in the near future many others will have the courage to run and even win," she said, adding that it's time to fight for the rights of women.

Somalia's years of insecurity marked by devastating attacks by the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab extremist group also have driven Adam to run. "There was mayhem in this country for the past 30 years," she said. "Young people are dying like flies, killing each other, exploding themselves, killing other people."

Like others across Somalia, she has watched as the insecurity weakened the country's foundation. High unemployment, poor education and one of the world's least-equipped health systems are all a result. Corruption and political squabbling haven't helped.

"I thought a woman may be what this country needs, the leadership of a woman, to bring peace and stability," Adam said.

Her presidential campaign has been relatively low-profile because of the insecurity and the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead of holding large public rallies, Adam prefers smaller indoor gatherings. "This could be less expensive but less effective as well," said Liban Abdullahi Farah, a political analyst in the capital, Mogadishu. Unlike many other candidates and everyday people in Somalia, where face masks are hardly seen despite having one of the highest COVID-19 case fatality rates in Africa, Adam says she takes the pandemic seriously and speaks bluntly about its dangers



Somali Parliament member Fawzia Yusuf H. Adam, center, chats with campaign supporters at Lido beach in Mogadishu, Somalia Monday, July 19, 2021.

Associated Press

after seeing several friends die.

"I keep giving advice on this pandemic, particu-

larly how badly it impacts women and the poorest of them," she said. "We don't have a good health system to deal with this phenomenon."

Women in Somalia have been especially hard hit by the virus, Adam said, both physically and economically.

"I personally took my two vaccinations, many people did, but many poor people in the camps, the internally displaced people, the very poor, vulnerable people do not have that chance," she said. "□"

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Over 125,000 Fit2fly tests completed!

PALM BEACH — MedCare's Fit2Fly COVID-19 Testing Centers just completed test number 125,000 since starting testing services at the beginning of the year. With six locations at various resorts on the island and two walk-in locations are at the Cove Mall and near the Courtyard by Marriott Aruba Resort at the Mill, it is one of the largest test centers on island.

MedCare's fit2fly test centers offer your best option for the post vacation COVID-19 test which has been a requirement since January 26th 2021 by the U.S. before returning home. All passengers going to the United States, including U.S. citizens, are required to have a negative (antigen or PCR) COVID-19 test result of a test taken maximum three days prior to boarding the flight, or documentation of recovery from COVID-19. MedCare's testing centers in and close to the hotels provide you with an easy and secure solution.

MedCare Clinic, a high-quality medical clinic that is specialized in urgent care for tourists and that has been appointed as the national COVID-19 clinic for tourists, and Laboratorio di Servizio, a full-service modern medical laboratory with state-of-the-art equipment, have partnered up to provide fast and reliable COVID-19 testing to all. Laboratorio di Servizio is ISO-15189:2012 accredited by the Dutch Council for Accreditation (M317).

NAAT Test

As Aruba resumes to receive more and more visitors each month, one thing has become very clear: testing is critical. Thus far MedCare Clinic has been offering high-volume laboratory testing with results in 24 hours or less. The newest service on the market is NAAT test, where you receive your results in minutes not hours.

Just steps away from you

The Fit2Fly COVID-19 Testing Centers are located at the Cove Mall and near the Courtyard by Marriott Aruba Resort at the Mill. These two locations at a stone's throw from your resort, condominium, or other vacation



accommodation. Walk-ins are welcome. It is recommended that the tests are done timely, as the negative test is only accepted if taken up to three days before boarding your flight. MedCare Fit2Fly Testing Center at the Cove Mall is opposite the Holiday Inn and is open every day for walk-ins from 8 AM through 6 PM. MedCare's other location is situated at The Courtyard Aruba Resort, is across the street from the RIU Hotel and is open every day from 8:00 AM until 2 PM.

At your hotel

For a selection of hotels/resorts in Aruba, MedCare has setup Testing Centers on site. The hotels/resorts at which we have a testing site are: Divi All Inclusive, Divi Dutch Village, Divi Golf, Divi Phoenix, Divi Tamarijn, Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort, Hyatt Regency, Renaissance, and the Ritz-Carlton Resort. Please contact your front desk for more information on our Testing Centers at these properties.

Costs and timing

Passengers must be tested with a viral test that could be either an Antigen Test or a nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT), such as the reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (PCR). The price for the Antigen Test is only \$50, and the PCR Test is available, for \$125, The new NAAT will be \$150 (results in 30 minutes.) MedCare offers the easier and substantially cheaper Antigen Test that is acceptable for travel to the U.S. as per the CDC guidelines. Pre-travel testing is not covered by the Aruban visitor insurance. Please contact your insurance company to verify if testing costs are insured. Results are e-mailed to you within 24 hours of testing.

Private bookings

For your convenience, Medcare also offers private testing at your accommodation/hotel room for a one-time service fee of \$120. This fee covers testing up to 10 people (one appointment, at one location and a specific time). Additional persons will be charged \$10 per person. Regular testing fees applies. □



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Birds of Aruba



ORANJESTAD — On May 11th, 2010, the Aruba Birdlife Conservation was founded with the aim of protecting the biodiversity in general and birds in and around Aruba in particular.

Among other things, the foundation also focusses on increasing the survival chances of species of wild birds by promoting their preservation and conservation. The foundation publishes the most beautiful pictures of local birds on their social media that show us the beauty of Aruba's birds and nature in general. Aruba Today gives you a little peek with the following pictures and descriptions from the foundations Facebook page.

Incoming....

A part of a larger flock of ducks landing at one of the 16 new nature areas of Aruba's National Park.

7 White-cheeked Pintails and 1 Blue-winged Teal.

Can you find the Blue-winged Teal?

Papiamentu: Pato di aña y Pato moreke.

Netherlands: Bahamapijlstaart en Blauwvleugeltaling.

More than a dozen species of ducks visit Aruba. At least two of them breed in Aruba.

Wing pattern.

A Shoco demonstrating its wing pattern.

The Aruba Burrowing Owl is an endemic subspecies.

In 2012 it was declared a National Symbol of Aruba.

There are an estimated 200 pairs remaining in Aruba's nature.

Netherlands: Arubaanse Holenuil. □



Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materi-

als, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received an amazing story from Amy (aka "Aruba Amy") from Minneapolis, USA.

She wrote:

"Aruba to me is.... Making special memories and celebrating birthdays and anniversaries with local friends and family at our "home away from home" at Amsterdam Manor. This



is our 25th wedding anniversary and our 25th year to Aruba (42 trips) and we love celebrating in Aruba! Many, many thanks to our extended Aruba family and friends." □



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Fishing in Aruba



ORANJESTAD — Fishing has been a family tradition for ages in Aruba. Our ancestors used to fish for a living. Even though nowadays you don't see them often we still have some passionate fishermen on the island that go out every day in search for fish to feed their families and serve our local market. One of these fisherman is Gregory Wernet.

Fisherman Gregory Wernet
Gregory Wernet is a well-known fisherman from Santa Cruz. His father taught him fishing when he was a small child. Gregory has two sons, Jordan and Jordanny, which he taught fishing too, when they were only 3 years old and he takes them fishing with him. Fishing has been a family



tradition for quite a long time and even his grandson Willvion of 7 years old is following his grandfather steps. This is the sixth generation of fishermen in their family.

They go deep sea fishing. There they catch red snapper, grouper and amberjack. They usually fish for 15 hours a day, but now due to the covid-19 measurements they go fishing from 5 in the morning until 8 o'clock at night or even sometimes from 8 at night till 5 in the morning. The day before they prepare all their fishing tools such as the Lines, lures, spears, and load their boat with fishing reels, batteries, fill the gasoline tank, lights and some food and beverages. For bait he uses sardines, squid and the small fish known in Aruba as piskechi. The have two boats they use for fishing. 'Virgen del Valle' which is parked at the pier by the Seaport and 'Padrot' which they have

at home.

The fish they catch they take home to their families and they also sell it to their clients. Gregory is proud to be a fisherman. It is a honest and humble job but with it he is able to feed his family even during hard times. It is a very dangerous job and you have to spend many hours on the sea, waiting patiently and risking your life while fighting a big fish and big waves but the adrenaline it brings with it but also just sitting there listening to the sound of the waves and enjoying the marvelous view that nature has to offer is all worth it. □

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Judge loosens Apple's grip on app store in Epic decision

By **MICHAEL LIEDTKE**

SAN RAMON, Calif. (AP) —

A federal judge ordered Apple to dismantle a lucrative part of the competitive barricade guarding its closely run iPhone app store, but rejected allegations that the company has been running an illegal monopoly that stifles competition and innovation.

The ruling issued Friday continues to chip away at the so-called "walled garden" that Apple has built around its crown jewel, the iPhone, and its app store, without toppling it completely.

The 185-page decision from U.S. District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers also provided Apple with some vindication. The judge didn't brand Apple as a monopolist or require it to allow competing stores to offer apps for iPhones, iPads and iPods.

Those were two of the biggest objectives sought by Epic Games, the maker of the popular Fortnite video game that filed what it would hoped would be a landmark antitrust case last year after brazenly defying an exclusive payment system that funnels 15% to 30% of all in-app digital transactions on iPhones to Apple. Such transactions can include everything from Netflix or Spotify subscriptions to the sale of digital item such as songs, movies or virtual tchotchkes for video games. Epic cast that highly lucrative fee as a price-gouging tactic that wouldn't be possible if competing stores were allowed to offer iPhone apps. While parts of her decision raised questions about whether Apple's fees were driving up prices for consumers, Gonzalez Rogers left the fee structure intact and upheld the company's right to block other stores from offering apps for its iPhone. She sided with Apple on every other key point of the case.

But the judge did conclude Apple has been engaging in unfair competition under California law, prompting her to order the company to allow developers throughout the U.S. to insert



In this Feb. 5, 2021 photo, an Apple store employee is shown in New York.

Associated Press

links to other payment options besides its own within iPhone apps. That change would make it easier for app developers to avoid paying Apple's commissions, potentially affecting billions of dollars in revenue annually.

The prospect of Apple taking a hit to its lofty profit margins rattled investors, causing the company's stock price to fall by more than 3% in Friday's trading. That downturn delivered an \$80 billion blow to Apple's market value.

Yet Apple did its best to frame the decision as a complete victory, even as it acknowledged it may appeal the portion of the ruling that will make it easier for app developers side-step Apple's commissions. "We are very pleased with the court's ruling and we consider this a huge win for Apple," said Kate Adams, the company's general counsel. "This decision validates that Apple's 'success is not illegal,' as the judge said."

Gonzalez Rogers also dealt Epic a blow by ruling that the game maker breached its contract with Apple when Fortnite add-

ed a non-Apple payment system to its app. That defiance prompted Apple to oust Fortnite from its app store 13 months ago, triggering Epic's lawsuit. She ordered Epic to pay Apple nearly \$3.7 million, or 30% of the revenue it collected while violating Apple's commissions.

Epic CEO Tim Sweeney denounced the ruling in a tweet, writing that it "isn't a win for developers or for consumers."

He said Fortnite will return to Apple's app store once it can offer competitive in-app payments. "We will fight on," he added in a subsequent tweet.

"It's a bit of a mixed bag," said Stanford University law professor Mark Lemley. "I think on balance, it's a win for Apple. They dodged the biggest threat to them." The ruling caps a trial that spent the entire month of May focused on Apple's app store, one of the pillars holding up its \$2 trillion empire.

Since that trial ended, Apple has taken two steps to loosen some of its app store rules — one to settle a lawsuit and another to appease Japanese regulators

without altering its commissions. Those concessions make it easier for many apps to prod their users to pay for digital transactions in ways that avoid triggering Apple's fees.

As part of a deal with Japanese regulators announced last week, Apple had agreed to allow what it dubs "reader" apps — those that sell subscriptions to digital music, video and publications — to insert links steering users to other places to sign up for accounts and, in theory, pay for services.

Now Gonzalez Rogers is ordering Apple to go even further by allowing links for non-Apple payment options directly within all apps, something Apple has steadfastly resisted.

"Loosening the restrictions will increase competition," Gonzalez Rogers wrote. For instance, it would expose Apple to rival payment services charging lower commissions.

Another Apple antagonist, Spotify, cheered the increased ease with which consumers could choose other payment options. The company, which has been among the most stri-

dent critics of Apple's commission system, called for lawmakers and regulators to do even more to break down the walls protecting Apple's app store.

A bill introduced in Congress earlier this year proposes to obliterate Apple's commission system and open up the market to more competition. "Much more must be done," said Sen. Amy Klobuchar, a Democrat from Minnesota pushing for app store reforms.

Chris Hoofnagle, a law professor in residence at the University of California, Berkeley, views the decision as a major victory for app developers, although he is worried that the greater freedom to post in-app links will weaken privacy and security, as Apple has warned.

App developers are "going to have more opportunities to use different forms of payment and to contact people in different ways," Hoofnagle said. "If developers choose bad payment mechanisms and if they use this decision as an opportunity to kind of open the spam floodgates, you might regret this outcome." In a research note, Cowen Washington Research Group analyst Doug Creutz said the inclusion of in-app links to other payment options could increase the pressure on Apple to lower its commissions.

"Apple will obviously have to respond to this to try to retain people in its payment system," Creutz wrote. Although the figures were kept confidential during the trial, analysts have estimated that Apple's app store division brings in \$15 billion to \$18 billion annually, helping to fuel the company's rapidly growing services division. That division's revenue has swelled from \$24 billion in 2016 to \$54 billion last year.

Apple CEO Tim Cook had warned that losing control over iPhone apps would create "a toxic kind of mess" during his testimony on the witness stand at the end of a four-week trial in Oakland, California. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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Researchers complete first-ever detailed map of global coral

By CALEB JONES

Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Researchers have completed a comprehensive online map of the world's coral reefs by using more than 2 million satellite images from across the globe.

The Allen Coral Atlas, named after late Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, will act as a reference for reef conservation, marine planning and coral science as researchers try to save these fragile ecosystems that are being lost to climate change.

The group announced completion of the atlas Wednesday and said it is the first global, high-resolution map of its kind. It gives users the ability to see detailed information about local reefs, including different types of submarine structure like sand, rocks, seagrass and, of course, coral.

The maps, which include areas up to 50 feet (15 meters) deep, are being used to inform policy decisions about marine protected areas, spatial planning for infrastructure such as docks and seawalls and upcoming coral restoration projects.

"Our biggest contribution in this achievement is that we have a uniform mapping of the entire coral reef biome," said Greg Asner, managing director of the Atlas and director of Arizona State University's Center for Global Discovery and Conservation.

Asner said they relied on a network of hundreds of field contributors who gave them local information about reefs so that they could program their satellites and software to focus on the right areas.

"And that lets us bring the playing field up to a level where decisions can be made at a bigger scale because so far decisions have been super localized," Asner said. "If you don't know what you've got more uniformly, how would the U.N. ever play a real role? How would a government that

has an archipelago with 500 islands make a uniform decision?"

The atlas also includes a coral bleaching monitor to check for corals that are stressed due to global warming and other factors. Asner said about three quarters of the world's reefs had not previously been mapped in this kind of in-depth way, and many not at all.

The project began in 2017 when Allen's company, Vulcan Inc., was working with Ruth Gates, a Hawaii researcher whose idea of creating "super coral" for reef restoration was funded by the philanthropic foundation.

Gates and Vulcan brought in Asner because of his work with the Global Airborne Observatory that had been mapping reefs in Hawaii at the time.

Allen, who said he wanted to help save the world's coral reefs, liked the idea of using technology to visualize data, so Gates connected the group with a satellite company called Planet, and Allen funded the project for about \$9 million.

The University of Queensland in Australia used artificial intelligence technology and local reference data to generate the layers on the atlas. Anyone can view the maps for free



In this December 2019 photo provided by the Allen Coral Atlas, Alexandra Ordonez Alvarez, from University of Queensland, collects georeferenced data on the Great Barrier Reef's Ashmore Bank in Australia.

Associated Press

online.

Both Allen and Gates passed away in 2018, leaving Asner and others to carry on their work.

"Ruth would be so pleased, wouldn't she?" Asner said. "She would just be tickled that this is really happening."

He said about a third of the calls he is getting are from researchers who hope to use the maps to "be sure that their planning and their reef restoration work is going to have its max efficacy."

When Gates found out she was sick, she selected friend and colleague Helen Fox from the National Geographic Society to help communicate with conservation groups about how

to use the tool.

"It really was a global effort," said Fox, who is now the conservation science director for Coral Reef Alliance. "There were huge efforts in terms of outreach and helping people be aware of the tool and the potential scientific and conservation value." □



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Horschel wins at Wentworth, fueled by Ryder Cup snub

VIRGINIA WATER, England (AP) — Billy Horschel felt aggrieved this week at the manner in which he missed out on a place in the U.S. team for the Ryder Cup.

So he took down a bunch of leading Europeans by himself.

Horschel birdied Wentworth's storied 18th hole after an approach shot that spun back to inside 2 feet, securing a closing 7-under 65 and a one-shot victory at the BMW PGA Championship on Sunday.

He became only the second American to win what is traditionally regarded as the biggest event on the European Tour, after Arnold Palmer in 1975.

Not a bad way to get over the disappointment of being overlooked for a captain's pick for the Ryder Cup team. And Horschel had a message for U.S. captain Steve Stricker.

"It sucks not making the team," Horschel said. "I didn't play consistent enough, and well enough, after I won the Match Play to warrant a pick or to get enough points to get an automatic selection."

"I was a little gutted I didn't get a call this week. I didn't think the call was going to say I made the team but I was a little gutted I didn't



Billy Horschel of the U.S lifts the trophy after victory during day four of the PGA Championship at Wentworth Golf Club, Surrey, England, Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021.

Associated Press

get a call to say, 'Hey, you know, you didn't make the team.' In my mind, I thought I would at least get that, so there was a little more added motivation after that." A number of European players who couldn't live with Horschel at Wentworth will be heading to Whistling Straits, however.

On a dramatic day of twists and turns in the final qualifying event, Lee Westwood, Bernd Wiesberger, Matt Fitzpatrick and Tyrrell Hat-

ton were able to celebrate getting the final automatic qualifying places in the European team. Westwood made it for an 11th time, Wiesberger for the first.

Shane Lowry shot 71 to be tied for 17th place and miss out on an automatic spot but was named as one of Padraig Harrington's captain's picks later Sunday along with Sergio Garcia and Ian Poulter. Justin Rose was overlooked despite shooting 65 on Sunday

to stake his claim to Harrington.

Horschel's birdie on No. 18 took him above Kiradech Aphibarnrat (64) and Jamie Donaldson (66) to 19-under 269, and left only one player with a chance of beating him.

Laurie Canter, a 170th-ranked Englishman playing in the final group, needed an eagle on the par-5 last hole to win or a birdie to force a playoff, but had to lay up after driving into the

rough. His third shot settled within about 15 feet and his birdie putt never had a chance, missing to the right.

Canter signed for a 67, tying him for second place.

It was the first time Horschel won a regular event on the European Tour and it will go a long way toward clinching him the season-long Race to Dubai, with Horschel having already won the equivalent on the PGA Tour — the FedEx Cup — in 2014.

Horschel is a big fan of English Premier League soccer team West Ham — he has the club's colors on his bag — and he said he would be celebrating the win by going for dinner with two of its players, captain Mark Noble and England midfielder Declan Rice.

The race for the final spots on the European team for the Ryder Cup was predictably frantic considering so many points were on offer at Wentworth.

Westwood's place was under threat the entire week but his round of 77 didn't stop the 48-year-old Englishman claiming the final spot on the world points list. He was helped by Lowry — a big qualifying rival — dropping away in the back nine. □

Dodgers' Max Scherzer notches 3,000th career strikeout



Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Max Scherzer throws to an Atlanta Braves batter during the first inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2021, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

By BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Max Scherzer of the Los Angeles

Dodgers has become the 19th player in major league history with 3,000 strikeouts. The 37-year-old right-hand-

er fanned Eric Hosmer of the San Diego Padres in the fifth inning Sunday at Dodger Stadium.

The crowd gave the three-time Cy Young Award winner a standing ovation, and Scherzer doffed his cap. He threw the keepsake ball into the dugout. Hosmer went down on six pitches, retired on a swinging strike. The punchout also kept Scherzer perfect through five innings in a game that also included an immaculate inning. He's thrown two no-hitters in his 14-year career but never a perfect game.

Knowing Scherzer needed one more to reach the mark, fans got to their feet and cheered each time he

had two strikes on a batter. Some held up cell phones to record the moment.

Scherzer came into the game needing six strikeouts to reach 3,000. He got Trent Grisham in the first. He struck out the side on nine pitches in the second, retiring Fernando Tatis Jr., Eric Hosmer and Tommy Pham, who all went down swinging.

In the third, Scherzer struck out Wil Myers on five pitches.

Scherzer is 13 strikeouts from catching Houston's Justin Verlander for the most among active players. Verlander — a teammate of Scherzer's in Detroit — is missing the entire 2021 season following Tommy John

surgery.

Scherzer is 13-4, and his 2.28 ERA leads the National League. He was acquired from the Washington Nationals in July and put himself in contention for a fourth Cy Young down the stretch for the Dodgers.

He is on a nine-game winning streak and hasn't lost since May 30 against Milwaukee. He is 9-0 in his last 15 starts since June 4, going 9-0 with a 2.23 ERA. Four of those wins have come with the Dodgers.

Scherzer was drafted by Arizona in 2006 out of Missouri. He has pitched for the Diamondbacks, Detroit and Washington, and is a combined 188-97 with a 3.15 ERA in his career. □

Steelers stun Bills in season opener behind staunch defense

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP)

— Ben Roethlisberger and the Steelers' new-look offense overcame a slow start, Ulysees Gilbert returned a blocked punt 9 yards for a touchdown, and Pittsburgh rallied to a season-opening 23-16 win over the Buffalo Bills on Sunday.

Down 10-0, the Steelers scored on each of their first four possessions of the second half, with Roethlisberger putting Pittsburgh ahead for good by lobbing a 5-yard touchdown pass to Diontae Johnson in the left corner of the end zone. The pass initially went off Johnson's fingertips, but the receiver secured the ball before tumbling out of bounds 3:41 into the fourth quarter. The Steelers extended their lead to 20-10 some 90 seconds later with Miles Killebrew bursting up the middle to block Matt Haack's punt, with Gilbert scooping up the loose ball and running it in untouched.

In opening his 18th — and perhaps final — season, Roethlisberger posted his 36th career fourth-quarter comeback to tie Drew Brees for third on the NFL list. He finished 18 of 32 for 188 yards and a touchdown. Chris Boswell hit all three field-goal attempts, including a game-sealing 45-yarder with 2:42 remaining.

CARDINALS 38, TITANS 13

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)

Kyler Murray scored five touchdowns and linebacker Chandler Jones had a career-high five sacks.

Jones, who tied the franchise record, had three sacks in a first quarter so good LeBron James chimed in on social media for his Defensive Player of the Year candidacy. Jones, who wants a new contract, also forced two fumbles the Cardinals turned into 14 points.

Murray tormented the Titans throwing for 289 yards with two TD passes apiece to All-Pro wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins and Christian Kirk. Murray's best pass came early in the third quarter off his back

foot to Kirk on a beautiful floater Kirk simply ran under. Arizona scored the first 17 points and moved the ball almost at will against Tennessee.

SEAHAWKS 28, COLTS 16

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Russell Wilson threw three of his four touchdowns in the first half as the defending NFC West champions won the 12th of their past 13 games in the early Sunday timeslot.

Indy lost its eighth straight opener, the past five with different starting quarterbacks.

Wilson was sensational in his first action with new offensive coordinator Shane Waldron, shredding a top-10 defense that entered the season with even higher aspirations. But against



Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Diontae Johnson (18) hauls in a touchdown pass from Ben Roethlisberger with Buffalo Bills cornerback Olajiah Griffin (37) defending during the second half of an NFL football game in Orchard Park, N.Y., Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021.

Associated Press

Seattle's revamped offense, Wilson made sure the Colts' defense never had a chance.


Despite taking no preseason snaps, the eight-time Pro Bowler led the Seahawks to touchdowns on

their first two drives, hooking up with Tyler Lockett on a twisting, over-the-shoulder catch for a 23-yard TD pass to make it 7-3 and finding Gerald Everett for a 9-yard score. Wilson capped the half with a 69-yard scoring throw to Lockett after he broke free behind two Colts safeties. Wilson finished the half with a perfect passer rating of 158.3 and wound up 18 of 23 with 254 yards. His final rating of 152.3 was the second highest of his 10-year career and his best mark in a September game.

49ERS 41, LIONS 33

DETROIT (AP) — Dre Greenlaw returned an interception for a touchdown to help the 49ers score 17 points over two-plus minutes late in the first half. □


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EAGLE BEACH — Located at Costa Linda Beach Resort between its captivating swimming pool and the amazing world-famous Eagle Beach Aruba, you will find 'Water's Edge Restaurant; a cozy, relaxing & inspiring Aruban restaurant. Serving the most mouthwatering dishes of all over the world to please all your taste buds with its popular and demanding international selection.

If you're looking for a phenomenal dinner experience that has all the ingredients for a wonderful gastronomic night, then you should book at least one night of your stay at Water's Edge Restaurant. Designed to pamper all your senses and cover all of your needs with an amazing staff to attend to your every wish, whether in the fine dining room or under a palapa with your toes in the sand.

Gastronomic journey

Kick start the night with a great, refreshing and most delicious cocktail mixed with concoctions before the grand tour of an extraordinary culinary experience. Start your journey with an exquisite appetizer such as the daily fresh made Water's Edge ceviche or maybe a world known jumbo shrimp cocktail followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as the Spicy Caribbean Seafood pasta, Mahi Mahi or pan fried Red Snapper served with Aruban creole sauce or garlic lemon butter. For the carnivores among us there are choices of 8 ounce seasoned Filet Mignon, 12 ounce Rib Eye steak or a French Rack of Lamb



seasoned and grilled to perfection. With choices of extra sides of fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wines from the great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu. Vegetarians will enjoy the roasted vegetable pasta tossed in a light butter sauce and topped with freshly shaved parmesan cheese. As desserts the choices are wild. Homemade key lime pie, co-



conut flan served with caramel sauce and whipped cream or a NY cheese cake, chocolate brownie with chocolate sauce vanilla ice cream and whipped cream or a delicious oven fresh carrot cake served with orange sauce and candied pecans. Whether it is the best seafood, steaks, chicken, pasta, or your continental favorites the reasonably priced menu offers a modern twist and features generous portions and Chef's specials.

Creating memories

Planning a birthday or anniversary dinner? Water's Edges Restaurants gives you the perfect gift. Here, you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

Live entertainment:

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. On Monday & Saturday, Angela Flores, will delight you with her violin. Tuesday, Jean Paul, Saxophonist, will get you moving. On Wednesday's and Sunday's singer Paula Ridderstap will make you sing along to all her tunes. Thursday's and Friday's

guitarist Ricky Thomas will make you find your groove. And also on Sunday's Tico Kock will make you dance away to the sounds of his steel drum. Whether you're in a romantic mood or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you. In addition, the best happy hour in Aruba happens right here. Water's Edge Restaurant offers three Happy Hours daily (12 noon – 1 pm, 4 pm – 6 pm, with complimentary hors d'oeuvres served by circulating staff, and again from 9 pm – 10 pm) with all premium brands specially priced.

Whether it's for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular sunset views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.

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For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website www.watersedge-aruba.com

